

Is This Something You've Been Thinking About?

You're not alone if these thoughts have started to come up.

For some, it's just a passing idea.

For others, it's something that's been in the background for a while.

There's no pressure to act—just an opportunity to begin thinking about what might come next.

- Would a different layout make daily life easier?
- Is maintaining the home starting to feel like more work?
- What might the next stage of home look like?

This guide is simply a place to start—so you can think things through at your own pace.

Where to Go From Here

If this guide raised a few questions, you're not alone. Many people find it helpful to look at a few related topics before deciding what comes next.

Community Guides

A closer look at 55+ and senior-friendly communities—including home styles, pricing, and what daily living actually looks like.

Senior Services Guide

A list of local services to support transitions—from organizing and moving help to everyday support.

Moving & Planning Checklist

A simple way to think through timing, preparation, and next steps—without feeling overwhelmed.

You can explore these resources here:
<https://www.tomsharprealtor.com/55-living>



No registration required



Tom Sharp, REALTOR®
Greater Athens Properties

(706) 331-6035

TomSharpRealtor@gmail.com

Helping people make thoughtful,
lifelong real estate decisions —
with clarity and confidence.

When Is It Time to Move?

By Tom Sharp

A simple way to recognize when it might be time to start thinking about a move.



**A guide to thinking ahead
about your next home**



Why This Decision Gets Delayed

Very few people say, “I should move now?”

More often, it sounds like:

- “We’re fine for now.”
- “Maybe next year.”
- “Let’s not rush it.”

And for a while, that’s true.

Until it isn’t—and the realization forces a decision.

Questions Most People Don’t Ask Soon Enough

- If nothing changed, would this home still work in 5 years?
- Am I staying because it fits—or because it’s familiar?
- “What have you quietly stopped doing because it feels like too much?”
- Are the time and costs of maintaining this home still worth it?

Most of these changes happen gradually—and most people see them, but wait longer than they meant to.



How to Think Through the Decision

Most people don’t make this decision all at once. It’s usually a combination of small factors that gradually change how a home fits your life.

The Home Itself

- Is the layout still working comfortably day to day?
- Are there areas that are harder to maintain or use?

Daily Life

- How easy is it to get where you need to go?
- Are routines becoming more complicated than they used to be?

Looking Ahead

- Will this home still work a few years from now?
- Would small changes be enough, or would something different make life easier?

There isn’t a single right answer—just what fits your life today and supports what comes next.



What This Doesn’t Mean (Yet)

There isn’t always a clear moment when it’s time to move.

More often, it’s a series of small changes that begin to stand out.

Noticing these changes doesn’t mean you need to act right away.

It simply means it may be worth paying closer attention to how your home is supporting your daily life.

For some people, small adjustments are enough to make things work well again.

For others, these changes become part of a larger shift over time.

The goal at this stage isn’t to make a decision—it’s to recognize when something may be changing, and to give yourself the space to think it through.

- Pay attention to what feels easy—and what doesn’t
- Notice patterns, not one-time frustrations
- Give yourself time to think without pressure

Noticing the signs isn’t a decision—it’s simply the beginning of paying attention.

Helpful local resources are listed on the back cover